

Subject: A new Senior Center is coming to the 13th District!

From: Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>

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To: lisa@mediadistrict.org

Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember, 13th District



Friend --

March 17 is going to be a special day in Echo Park and the 13th District.

I am thrilled to announce that after years of work, we will finally dedicate a new Senior Center at the Sandra Cisneros Learning Academy on Mohawk Street and Sunset Boulevard.

This senior center has been a long journey, and this specific accomplishment comes full circle in my career as a public servant.

10 years ago, when I was on the staff of my predecessor in the 13th District, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) was gearing up to build a school on Mohawk Street. The site became highly controversial and despite considerable community opposition, a school was built at the location and eventually became what is now the Sandra Cisneros Learning Academy.

After lengthy negotiations with LAUSD that resulted in community benefits, the City received a commitment for a community center, complete with a full size cook's kitchen. As soon as I took office, I resurrected my previous efforts and identified funding to establish a fully operational senior center. The center will offer health resources, art classes, and provide transportation to those in need.

The Echo Park community has long awaited a senior center, and we have some wonderful partners in this collaboration. I would like to thank Laura Trejo and Marco Perez with the Department of Aging, as well as St Barnabas Senior Center, and LAUSD school board members Ref Rodriguez and Bennett Keyser (retired).

I am so thrilled to offer this wonderful new amenity to the community. As the years go by, our aging community deserves to have a dependable and robust network of supportive services, which includes top-notch senior centers across the City.

Warm regards,

Mitch O'Farrell

ALERT: TRAFFIC ADVISORY AND STREET CLOSURE INFORMATION FOR LA MARATHON

LOS ANGELES -- Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell is urging his constituents to be aware of a major event scheduled to take place in February that will force the closure of Sunset Boulevard and many of its north-south arteries.

The 26.2-mile Skechers Performance LA Marathon will trek along a similar route to last year, from downtown's Dodger Stadium to the Pacific coast. The race begins on Sunday, February 14 at 6:00 a.m. for hand cycles, 6:55 a.m. for wheelchairs, 7:10 a.m. for elite women's field, and 7:25 a.m. for all other participants.

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HEADLINES

101 'Slow Jam' begins with Friday night closures [\[KTLA\]](#)

Echo Park school to make way for seniors [\[EASTSIDER LA\]](#)

Artists use LA neighborhoods as their canvass [\[BEVERLY PRESS\]](#)

Councilmember O'Farrell plants roots in Glassell Park [\[GPIA\]](#)



ECHO PARK - The recent winds and inclement weather scattered debris around our streets, which kept the CD13 Clean Team busy this week clearing parkways and sidewalks. If you see a pile of palm fronds in your neighborhood, please call my Community Organizer Sylvan De La Cruz at 213-207-3015.

[SEE MORE BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK](#)

O'FARRELL HIGHLIGHTS DIVERSITY IN ANNUAL MADE IN HOLLYWOOD HONORS



HOLLYWOOD - Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell shined the spotlight on the films *Anomalisa* and *Inside Out*, as well as *Straight Outta Compton* for its work to encourage more inclusive employment practices and showcase the diversity of California-based productions, during the 5th annual Made In Hollywood Honors. The event serves to highlight Oscar-nominated films made in Hollywood and California. Legendary composer John Williams also received an award for his work on *Star Wars The Force Awakens*, who just received his 50th Oscar nomination.

The event was sponsored by Councilmember O'Farrell, 1600 VINE, SAG-AFTRA, California Film Commission, Film LA, Teamsters Local 399, Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund, and the Producers Guild of America.

As a member of the City Council's Entertainment and Facilities Committee, Councilmember O'Farrell is

working to identify ways to keep more film and television production jobs in Hollywood and the City of Los Angeles.

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VIDEO: COUNCILMEMBER O'FARRELL FLIPS FOR NEW BUSINESS IN ELYSIAN VALLEY



ELYSIAN VALLEY - Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell welcomed The Klub Gymnastics to the neighborhood with a certificate and a back flip! The Klub Gymnastics, a long time Silver Lake based recreational gymnastics center, relocated to 1683 Blake Avenue. The new center is centrally located on the LA River in Elysian Valley, and boasts almost 40,000 square feet, making it one of the largest gyms in Southern California.

[WATCH: COUNCILMEMBER O'FARRELL FLIPS FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS AT THE KLUB](#)

CREWS FINISH FINAL PHASE OF ECHO PARK LAKE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS



ECHO PARK - The last phase of the \$300,000 sidewalk improvement project at Echo Park Lake is complete! "We now have even greater accessibility and a safer passageway around this iconic Recreation and Parks facility," said Councilmember O'Farrell. This is just one of several recently completed enhancements at the Lake, including a new signalized crosswalk at Laguna Street, and new bike racks.

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O'FARRELL TALKS PUBLIC SAFETY WITH TRIANGLE SQUARE RESIDENTS



HOLLYWOOD - Councilmember O'Farrell visited with the seniors at Triangle Square in Hollywood to discuss quality of life and public safety, and afterward enjoyed some cake. The Councilmember has spent the last several months visiting senior centers throughout the district, and connecting them with city resources.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



SILVER LAKE - Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell congratulates Elaine Piha, director of Bellevue Recreation Center, for four years of City service. Thank you Elaine for all you do to help young Angelenos lead healthier, more active lives.

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